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Concert: Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble

Mike Titlebaum

Matt Wilson

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Jazz Ensemble
Mike Titlebaum, director

The David P '60 and Susan W Wohlhueter Jazz
Composition Contest at Ithaca College

Featuring guest artist Matt Wilson, drums

Ford Hall
Friday, December 8th, 2017
8:15 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Manteca Dizzy Gillespie, Chano Pozo, and
Gil Fuller

The Long Haul Rick Hirsch

Good Evening, Mrs. Gardner Jon Gardner

Neener Neener Remy Le Boeuf

Soup Matt Wilson
poem by Carl Sandburg
Virginia Maddock, vocal

Intermission

Up In The Air Kyle Simpson

25 Years of Rootabagas Matt Wilson
arr. JC Sanford

Tesseract Javier Nero
*Winner of the 2017 David P and Susan W Wohlhueter
Jazz Composition Contest at Ithaca College*

The Scenic Route Matt Wilson
arr. JC Sanford

Biographies

Matt Wilson

New York based drummer and Grammy nominee Matt Wilson is one of today's most celebrated jazz artists. He is universally recognized for his musical and melodic drumming style as well as being a gifted composer, bandleader, producer, and teaching artist. Matt's positive energy, sense of humor and ability to explore a broad range of musical settings keeps him in constant demand. In addition, Wilson's dedication to jazz has helped establish him as a beloved world ambassador for the music, on and off the bandstand.

Recently, Matt performed at the White House as part of an all-star jazz group for a State Dinner concert hosted by President Obama. Other performers included Herbie Hancock, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Dianne Reeves, Chris Botti, Randy Brecker, Antonio Hart and James Genus. Matt was named the artist in residence at the Litchfield Jazz Festival where he conducted a much-heralded public interview with Dave Brubeck. In 2010, Wilson conducted over 250 outreach programs promoting jazz including an acclaimed Jazz for Young Peoples concert at Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Wilson leads the Matt Wilson Quartet, Arts and Crafts, Christmas Tree-O and the Carl Sandburg Project. Matt is integral part of bands led by Joe Lovano, John Scofield, Charlie Haden, Lee Konitz, Bob Stewart, Denny Zeitlin, Ron Miles, Marty Ehrlich, Ted Nash, Jane Ira Bloom and Dena DeRose among others. He has performed with many legends of music including Herbie Hancock, Dewey Redman, Andrew Hill, Bobby Hutcherson, Elvis Costello, Cedar Walton, Kenny Barron, John Zorn, Marshall Allen, Wynton Marsalis, Michael Brecker, Pat Metheny, Bill Frisell and Hank Jones. Wilson has appeared on 250 CDs as a sideman and has released 9 as a leader for Palmetto Records as well as co-leading 5 additional releases.

Matt was featured on the covers of both Downbeat and JazzTimes magazines in November 2009 and was for 5 consecutive years voted #1 Rising Star Drummer in the Downbeat Critic's Poll. The readers of JazzTimes recently chose him as one of the top 4 drummers in the 2010 Readers Poll. In 2003, he was voted Drummer of the Year by the Jazz Journalists Association.

Mike Titlebaum

Saxophonist/composer/arranger Mike Titlebaum is Associate Professor of Music Performance and Director of Jazz Studies at Ithaca College, where he directs the Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble, coaches combos, teaches jazz saxophone and courses in jazz standards, arranging, repertoire and pedagogy. In 2010 he founded the Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble Composition Contest, which was endowed in 2017 with a gift by David P. ('60) and Susan W. Wohlhueter. Titlebaum also teaches and coordinates the jazz area in the IC Summer Music Academy.

Titlebaum has delivered workshops, lectures and performances at numerous state and national conferences, including the Jazz Education Network, the International Society for Improvised Music, the New York State School Music Association, the New York State Band Directors Association and the Texas

Music Educators Association. He has played in many of New York's world famous musical venues, including the Blue Note, Smalls, Augies, Fez Under Time Cafe and the infamous CBGB's as well as the pit orchestra of the Broadway musical "Cats." He has performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra, and with dozens of internationally recognized artists and groups such as Jason Robert Brown, Red Rodney, Randy Brecker, the Nelson Riddle Orchestra, the Mingus Big Band, Cab Calloway, Jeff Tyzik, Natalie Cole, Billy Taylor, Mel Torme, Manhattan Transfer, Branford Marsalis, Clark Terry, Lee Konitz, Kenny Wheeler, Billy Hart, Paquito D'Rivera, and many others. Titlebaum has published numerous compositions and arrangements through Lorenz (Heritage Jazz Works), Advance Music, and GIA Publications. His recent composition "Short Set" was recorded by the Canadian woodwind quintet Ventus Machina and released on their 2017 CD "In the Weeds."

Titlebaum was born and raised in Rochester, NY, where he earned his BM in Saxophone Performance from the Eastman School of Music in 1991, as well as the coveted Performer's Certificate in Saxophone. He received his MM in 1992 from Eastman in Jazz and Contemporary Media.

Javier Nero

Javier Nero is a jazz trombonist, composer, and arranger whose musicianship is already receiving significant recognition. Mr. Nero has won first place in 4 international jazz solo competitions including the 2011 International Trombone Association's Carl Fontana Competition, the ITA's 2013 JJ Johnson Competition, the 2014 American Trombone Workshop National Jazz Solo Competition, and most recently the 2015 Texas State Trombone Symposium Jazz Trombone competition.

Currently Miami based, Javier is busy as both a sideman and bandleader in the greater south Florida area. He has collaborated and recorded with multiple Grammy award winning trumpeters / composers Brian Lynch and John Daversa, as well as local staples in the jazz community such as Martin Bejerano, Errol Rackipov, Felipe Lamoglia, Tal Cohen, and Jean Caze. His classical training and versatility have enabled him to perform in various styles and genres alike, ranging from small jazz combos, to symphony orchestras. Nero is also a member of the award winning Haitian band "Klass" which tours the US, Canada, the Caribbean, South America, and France regularly.

Javier's compositions and arrangements have also earned various awards and accolades including Downbeat Magazine's Student Music Awards, participation in the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead Program, and the Banff Centre's international workshop in jazz and creative music. Multiple Grammy award-winning trumpeter Brian Lynch calls Nero's compositions: "modern, sophisticated yet accessible, pleasing the player and listener alike."

Nero currently holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Juilliard School, a Master of Music from University of Miami in Studio/Jazz Writing, and recently graduated in May, 2017 with a Doctor of Musical Arts degree with a cognate (minor) in classical trombone performance at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami.

Jon Gardner

Jon C. Gardner, M.M; Adjunct Professor of Music, is in his third year at Wilkes University where he directs The Marching Colonels Marching Band. In addition to directing The Marching Colonels, Jon is the band instructor at St. Patrick School in Malvern; a staff member with Leading Tone Lessons; the music director with The Philly Kroc Jazz Orchestra. While maintaining a very active teaching role, Jon has come to develop as a very well sought after arranger and composer primarily in the marching band, jazz ensemble, and studio orchestra idioms. Jon has also served as an educator for various professional, collegiate and high school ensembles in Pennsylvania; Massachusetts; Connecticut; Poland.

While many of Jon's marching band compositions and arrangement can be heard in various high school and collegiate formats, Jon has also had the privilege to compose for the following ensembles: Beatlemania Now! and The Penny Lane Horns; Dan Gabel and The Abletones; The Hickory Brass Quintet; Jump City Jazz Orchestra; The Philly Kroc Jazz Orchestra; and many others. Jon still maintains an active relation with the University of Massachusetts in Amherst as one of the staff writers for Jazz Ensemble 1 and The Studio Orchestra.

Rick Hirsch

As a composer and arranger Rick Hirsch has established himself nationally and internationally with his inventive, evocative works for jazz and saxophone ensembles. He began as an apprentice for master jazz composers Toshiko Akiyoshi and Bob Mintzer, serving each as personal music copyist. Rick has been awarded multiple fellowships and grants for jazz composition from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. He has been commissioned to write music for many top musicians and ensembles, including Eddie Henderson, Yusef Lateef, Chris Vadala, Jackie Allen, and the Capitol Quartet.

Hirsch's music is published by Alfred Music, UNC Jazz Press, BRS Music, and his own HirschMusic Publications. His jazz ensemble arrangements have received Editor's Choice designations several years in a row from J.W. Pepper.

As a saxophonist, Hirsch has performed with dozens of legendary jazz musicians, including Max Roach, Clark Terry, Tito Puente, Louie Bellson, and Phil Woods. He has also backed up the Four Tops and the Temptations, and has performed on NPR's Whaddya Know. He continues to perform regularly with several local and regional bands and musicians.

Remy Le Boeuf

Saxophonist and composer, Remy Le Boeuf envisions his approach to composition and improvisation as stemming from the roots of language. Le Boeuf often employs literary elements to fuel his compositions as in is his recent collaboration with Le Boeuf Brothers + JACK Quartet entitled imaginist. He has received commissions and awards from Chamber Music America, the Jerome Foundation, the American Composers Forum, SFJAZZ, BMI, the ASCAP Foundation, New York Youth Symphony, the International Symposium of Jazz

Arrangers and Composers, and the EtM Con Edison Composer Residencies. In addition to his work as a leader, Le Boeuf has performed with the Bob Mintzer Big Band, Donny McCaslin Saxophone Quartet, Linda Oh, Alexis Cuadrado, and Dayna Stephens. Originally from Santa Cruz, CA, Le Boeuf currently resides in Brooklyn, NY.

Kyle Simpson

Kyle Simpson, composer, trumpet player, and bandleader, is a graduate from Lawrence Conservatory of Music in Appleton, WI and The University of Montana in Missoula, MT. His composition teachers were Fred Sturm at Lawrence and Charles Nichols at The University of Montana. He is presently in the DMA program in composition at West Virginia University studying with Dr. Joseph Dangerfield and Dr. Sarana Chou.

Simpson has written many works for large jazz groups, chamber jazz groups, solo trumpet, synthesized electronic music, Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble. His compositions have been featured at the Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival in Missoula, where he also performed with Lew Soloff and Paquito D'Rivera. Other compositions have been featured at the Fête de la Musique Ile d'Yeu, France(2011), Uzmah Upbeat Croatia (2014), Charlotte New Music Festival (2013), Ostrava Days Czech Republic (2011), and The Henry Mancini Institute(2006), Los Angeles. Simpson's music has been described as, "lively with rhythmic vitality" and also, "lyrical with a brooding elegance." In 2016 he released his first commercial album called Something In Between: The Kyle Simpson Jazz Collective. Pittsburgh City Pages reviewed the album saying that the musical settings " reveal a rich harmonic sense that recalls Gil Evans' adventurous work."

Simpson currently resides outside of Pittsburgh, PA where he is an Assistant Professor teaching instrumental music at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, PA.

The David P '60 and Susan W Wohlhueter Jazz Composition Contest at Ithaca College

The prize was established through the generosity of Ithacan David Wohlhueter — a 1960 Ithaca College graduate and former longtime sports information director at both IC and Cornell — and his wife, Susan. School of Music students were among the judges of the contest, which provided them with experience in both evaluating and performing new music.

Jazz Ensemble

SAXOPHONES

*Lauren Thaete, alto
Emma Grey, alto
Dunham Hall, tenor
Scott Byers, tenor
Bryan Filetto, baritone

TRUMPETS

Dan Yapp
*Michael Stern
Shaun Rimkunas
Thomas Iandolo

TROMBONES

*Kurt Eide
Kate Mori
Barrett Smith
Louis Jannone, bass

RHYTHM

Theo Curtin, guitar
Tristen Jarvis, bass
Eric Myers, drums
*James Powell, drums
Oliver Scott, piano

* Section leader